

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NASA-04 NSC-10 SCI-06 H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL USUN 2340

E. O. 11652: JUNE 22, 1974

TAGS: TSPA PFOR UN UR CA FR

SUBJ: CONSULTATION WITH UN OUTER SPACE COMITE (OSC)

CHAIRMAN

SUMMARY: IN UUNE 21 CONSULTATIONS WITH US DELOFF WHICH CENTERED ON REGISTRATION AND MOON TREATIES, OSC CHAIRMAN PROFESSED RELATIVE OPTIMISM OVER PROSPECTS FOR AGREEMENT ON REGISTRATION AT UPCOMING COMITE SESSION. HE ASSERTED SOVS NO LONGER SET AGREEMENT ON MOON TREATY AS CONDITION FOR COMPLETING WORK ON REGISTRATION. END SUMMARY.

1. DETAILS: OSC CHAIRMAN JANKOWITSCH (AUSTRIA) AND CHRISTIANI OF AUSTRIAN UN MISSION CONSULTED AT THEIR REQUEST JUNE 21 WITH BALCK OF US DEL TO OSC ON MATTERS RELATING TO COMITE' S JUNE 25- JULY 6 SESSION. JANKOWITSCH SAID US WAS LAST OSC MEMBER TO BE CONSULTED, SINCE HE WANTED US TO BE AWARE OF VIEWS OF ALL " KEY" DELS. DISCUSSION CENTERED UPON REGISTRATION AND MOON TREATIES. JANKOWITSCH RECALLED THAT LEGAL SUBCOMITE REPORT HAD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WORK ON BOTH TREATIES MIGHT BE COMPLETED AT OSC
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SESSION: IN CONTRAST TO RECENT EXPRESSIONS OF PESSIMISM ON THAT SCORE FROM SEVERAL OSC MEMBERS, JANKOWITSCH WAS RELATIVELY HOPEFUL REGARDING REGISTRATION. HE INDICATED THAT ONLY APPARENT OBSTACLE WAS WIDESPREAD DESIRE FOR

SOME FOR OF MARKING PROVISION AND PROBED REGARDING US POSITION ON THIS ISSUE, PARTICULARLY OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD " MARKING EXTERNALLY AS MAY BE FEASIBLE."

2. BLACK REVIEWED REASONS WHY US REGARDS SUCH PROVISION UNACCEPTABLE, STRESSING OUR VIEW THAT MARKING COULD NOT MATERIALLY AID IN IDENTIFICATION OF SPACE OBJECT WHICH MIGHT RETURN TO EARTH AND CAUSE DAMAGE, WHICH WE REGARDED AS MAIN JUSTIFIABLE PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION TREATY.

JANKOWITSCH EXPRESSED MILD REGRET AT US POSITION, ADDING THAT NUMBER OF MEMBERS HAD EXPRESSED HEIGHTENED INTEREST IN MARKING AFTER SOVIET DISCLAIMER OF OWNERSHIP OF FRAGMENTS BEARING CYRILLIC LETTERING WHICH IMPACTED IN NEW ZEALAND. HE HINTED THAT WE MIGHT EXPECT NEW EFFORT AT PERSUADING US TO CHANGE POSITION WHEN COMITE CONVENES.

3. BLACK NOTED THAT US HAD REPEATEDLY STATED WILLINGNESS TO RECONSIDER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUBCOMITE'S APPRAISAL THAT NO MARKING SYSTEM WAS VIABLE ON TECHNICAL OR ECONOMIC GROUNDS, IF CONVINCING EVIDENCE WERE OFFERED TO SUPPORT CHANGE IN THAT APPRAISAL. HOWEVER, WE WERE NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH EVIDENCE. JANKOWITSCH AND CHRISTIANI SPECULATED THAT INCLUDING REVIEW CLAUSE IN TREATY KEYED TO POSSIBLE NEW TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT MEET INTERESTS OF MARKING PROPONENTS.

4. DISCSSING OVERALL US ATTITUDE TOWARD REGISTRATION, BLACK REVIEWED CHANGED POSITION SINCE 1972 WHICH HAD ENABLED US TO SUBMIT OUR OWN DRAFT TREATY TEXT IN EFFORT TO PROMOTE AGREEMENT. WE STILL WANTED AGREEMENT, BUT COULD NOT MOVE SIGNIFICANTLY BEYOND US DRAFT. MOREOVER, WE WERE IN NO PARTICULAR HURRY FOR AGREEMENT, SINCE WE CONSIDERED PRESENT VOLUNTARY UN SYSTEM SATISFACTORY. EXPRESSING UNDERSTANDING FOR US POSITION, JANKOWITSCH REIETERATED HIS HOPE THAT AGREEMENT WOULD PROVE POSSIBLE AT OSC.

5. JANKOWITSCH THOUGH REMAINING OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MOON TREATY WERE MORE DIFFICULT, PARTICULARLY PROVISIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCES. HE ASKED WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY CHANGE IN US POSITION CONCERNING THESE. BLACK REPLIED NEGATIVELY, ADDING THAT EXPLICIT NON- MORATORIUM ON EXPLOITATION PENDING ESTABLISHMENT OF INT'L REGIME WAS ESSENTIAL. HE ADDED THAT IN US VIEW, RESOLUTION OF RESORCES ISSUE MUST PRECEDE THAT OF ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF MISSIONS AND FORMULATION OF TREAT SCOPE, BUT WE DID NOT BELIEVE AGREEMENT ON LATTER TWO WOULD PROVE ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT IF RESOURCES SOLVED. JANKOWITSCH SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT SOUND OUT INDIANS, EGYPTIANS AND BRAZILIANS WHETHER THEY COULD ACCEPT US FORMULATION ON NATURAL RESOURCES WITH STATEMENTS ON RECORD THAT AGREEMENT REGARDING

MOON AND OTHER CELESTIAL BODIES BORE NO IMPLICATIONS FOR ANY OTHER LEGAL REGIME.

6. BLACK OBSERVED THAT US WAS NOT " ADVOCAGE" OF MOON TREATY, ALTHOUGH WE WERE ENTIRELY AGREEABLE TO MOVEMENT TWOARD CONCLUDING IT ON MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY BASIS. HE ASKED, SINCE JANKOWITSCH HAD EXPRESSED COMPARATIVELY GREATER HOPE FOR AGREEMENT ON REGISTRATION THAN ON MOON TREATY, WHETHER THIS IMPLIED CHANGE IN PREVIOUS SOVIET " POLITICAL" LINKAGE WHICH IN EFFECT MADE REGISTRATION HOSTAGE TO MOON TREATY. CHRISTIANI REPLIED THAT SOVS HAD EXPRESSLY RENOUNCED LINKAGE, ADDING THAT THEY APPARENTLY REALIZED THAT COMPLETION OF WORK ON REGISTRATION WOULD OPEN PRIORITY POSITION FOR DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITES ON 1974 LEGAL SUBCOMITE AGENDA REGARDLESS WHAT HAPPENED TO MOON TREATY.

7 JANKOWITSCH SAID THAT, ON BASIS OF GENRALLY FAVORABLE ATTITUDES, HE HAD ENCOUNTERED IN CONSULTATIONS , HE PLANNED TO SETP UP INFORMAL WORKING GROUP WITHIN OSC TO EXPEDITE POSSIBLE AGREEMENT ON EITHER OR BOTH TREATIES. RECALLING THAT US HAD BEEN RELUCTANT PARITCPANTS IN SIMILAR EXERCISE LAST YEAR, HE ASKED WHAT OUR ATTITUDE WOULD BE THIS TIME. BALCK REPLIED THAT SITUATION SEEMED SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT THIS YEAR , SINCE LEGAL SUBCOMITE HAD EXPLICITLY STATED HOPE THAT OSC WOULD TAKE STEPS IN THIS DIRECTION. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT WE HOPED WORKING GROUP WOULD BE CHARGED WITH EXPLORING WHETHER BASIS FOR FURHTER AGREEMENT EXISTED AND NOT MADE DRAFTING GROUP FROM OUTSET. JANKOWITSCH
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GAVE QUALIFIED AGREEMENT BUT SUGGESTED THAT US DEL MIGHT WISH TO STATE ABOVE UNDERSTANDING WHEN CHAIR MADE ITS PROPOSAL.
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